

Express Mail Label No. EL209600020US
U.S. National Phase Entry of PCT/GB99/01470
"Smart Porous Film or Material"
Filed: 09 November 2001
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

- B¹
6. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the discrete areas are provided by a printing process.
7. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the discrete areas are provided by an etching process.
8. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the discrete areas and the layer which they cover or all the layers are cut using a laser or a punch.
9. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the discrete areas and the layer which they cover or all the layers are cut so as to provide at least 3 close fitting flaps through the film or material.
10. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein at least some of the discrete areas are individually surrounded by a further discrete area which has fluid absorption properties different to the rest of the layer, the further discrete area being disposed from the discrete area which it surrounds.
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- B²
12. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the layer or one of the layers is substantially impermeable.
13. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the layer or one of the layers is permeable.
14. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 which forms one element of a multi-element textile.

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B²
15. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the layers have different hydrophilic properties to each other.

16. (Amended) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the layer and the discrete areas have different hydrophilic properties.

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims 18-29.

18. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 configured so as to be suitable for use in clothing.

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19. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the discrete areas are produced by attaching a material having different fluid absorption properties to the surface of the layer.

20. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 2 wherein the discrete areas are areas of the layer which have been plasma treated or treated with chemicals or radiation so as to modify their fluid absorption properties.

21. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the discrete areas are provided by a printing process.

22. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the discrete areas are provided by an etching process.

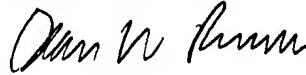
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23. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the discrete areas and the layer which they cover or all the layers are cut using a laser or a punch.
24. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the discrete areas and the layer which they cover or all the layers are cut so as to provide at least 3 close fitting flaps through the film or material.
25. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein at least some of the discrete areas are individually surrounded by a further discrete area which has fluid absorption properties different to the rest of the layer, the further discrete area being disposed from the discrete area which it surrounds.
26. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 25 wherein at least one of the further discrete areas is provided in the form of a hoop.
27. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the layer or one of the layers is substantially impermeable.
28. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 wherein the layer or one of the layers is permeable.

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29. (New) A smart film or material according to claim 1 which forms one element of a multi-element textile.

Respectfully submitted,



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